

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EFIN, BL

SUBJECT: ENFE MISSION

REF: LA PAZ 2862 AND PREVIOUS

1. STATE AND COMMERCE ACTION OFFICERS HAVE HAD ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS ARRANGING MEETINGS WITH INTERESTED U.S. SUPPLIERS FOR ANTEZANA AND MURILLO. UPON ARRIVAL THEY INDICATED THEIR DESIRE TO POSTPONE ANY FIRM DISCUSSIONS OF U.S. SCHEDULE UNTIL STATUS/DURATION OF IBRD NEGOTIATIONS CLEARER. FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT THEM RESULTED IN APRIL 23 CONVERSATION WITH BOLIVIAN EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELLOR JAIME DELGADILLO WHO INDICATED BOTH OFFICIALS PLANNED TRAVEL TO CANADA AS GUESTS OF GOC APRIL 27-30 AND TO ERIE, PA., AS GUESTS OF GENERAL ELECTRIC MAY 1-2. HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER OTHER APPOINTMENTS COULD BE SCHEDULED PRIOR TO THEIR RETURN TO LA PAZ. ACTION OFFICERS TOLD DELGADILLO THEY UNDERSTOOD FROM REFTELS THAT ANTEZANA AND MURILLO EXPECTED TO HAVE SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS WITH INTERESTED SUPPLIERS AND USG AGENCIES AND THAT SEVERAL SUPPLIERS

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(ESPECIALLY GENERAL MOTORS) HAD NOT ONLY EXPRESSED INTEREST

BUT WISHED FIRM APPOINTMENTS SO THEY COULD ARRANGE TRAVEL OF OFFICIALS TO WASHINGTON.

2. ON APRIL 25 DELGADILLO INFORMED ACTION OFFICERS THAT ANTEZANA AND MURILLO WISHED TO INSPECT EQUIPMENT AT NEW CUMBERLAND ARMY DEPOT ON MAY 1 AND MEET WITH GM REPRESENTATIVE LATER THE SAME DAY. HE REGRETTED THAT, DUE TO GE COMMITMENT AND NEED TO RETURN TO LA PAZ MAY 3-4, NO FURTHER APPOINTMENTS WOULD BE POSSIBLE. REQUESTED TRIP AND MEETING HAVE BEEN ARRANGED.

3. DEPARTMENT REGRETS FULLER PROGRAMMING FOR ANTEZANA AND MURILLO ALONG LINES REFTELS WAS NOT POSSIBLE. ACTION OFFICERS MADE CERTAIN THEY WERE AWARE OF USG DESIRE TO ASSIST THEM, BUT APPARENTLY THEIR PRIORITIES AND OTHER COMMITMENTS LEFT LITTLE NEED FOR THAT ASSISTANCE. KISSINGER

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